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REPORT

OF THE

STATE BOARD

OF

CENTENNIAL MANAGERS

TO THE

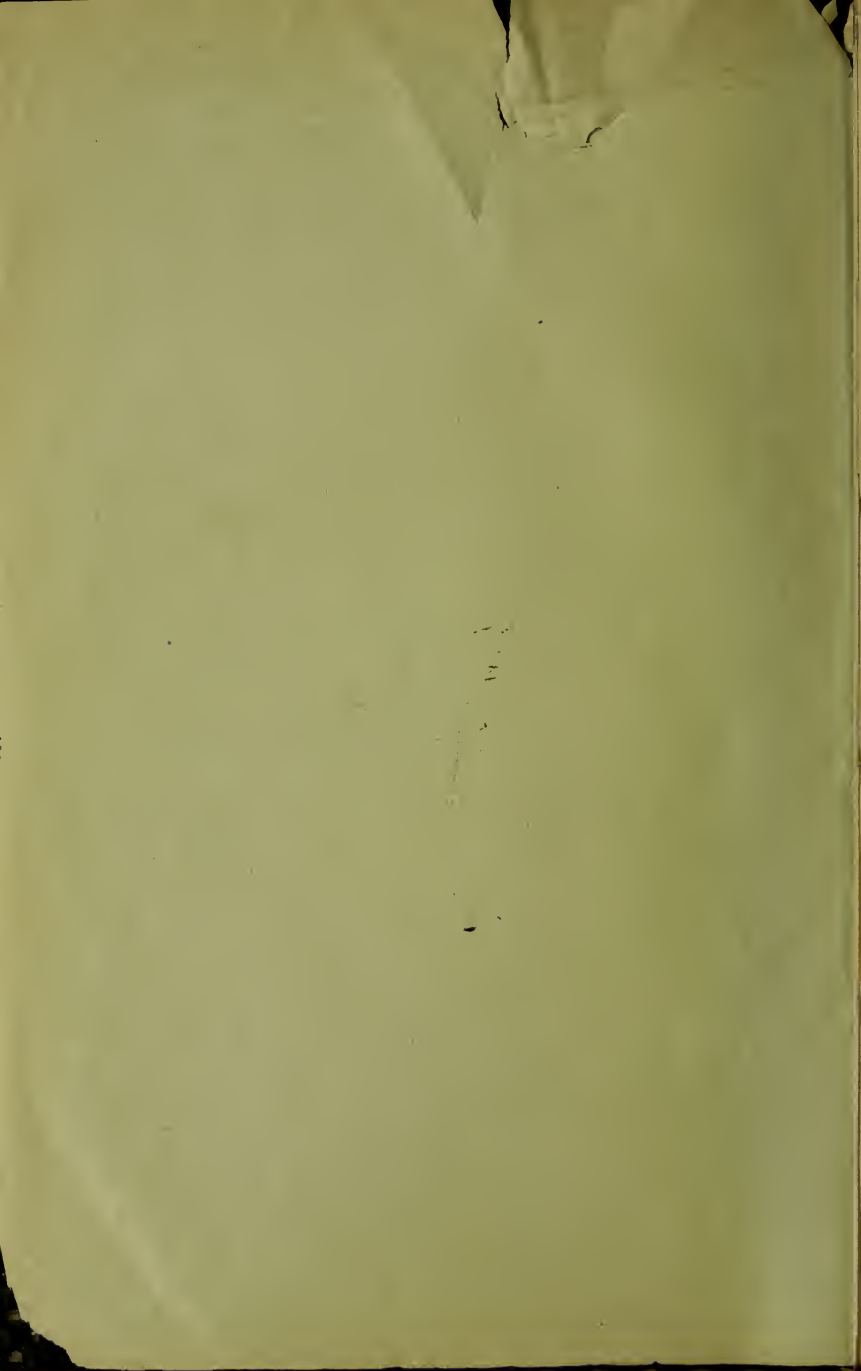
GOVERNOR.

*DECEMBER, 1876.*

SPRINGFIELD:

D. W. LUSK, STATE PRINTER AND BINDER.

1877.



REPORT

OF THE

*I. H. W. 2*  
STATE BOARD

OF

CENTENNIAL MANAGERS

TO THE

*15-3*  
GOVERNOR.

*Illinois*



DECEMBER 1876.

SPRINGFIELD:

D. W. LUSK, STATE PRINTER AND BINDER.

1877.

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## MESSAGE.

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STATE OF ILLINOIS, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, }  
SPRINGFIELD, January 5, 1877. }

*To the Honorable the General Assembly:*

I have the honor to advise the general assembly, that under and by virtue of a joint resolution of the twenty-ninth general assembly I appointed Hon. John P. Reynolds, of Chicago, Cook county; Hon. Carlile Mason, of Chicago, Cook Co.; Hon. A. C. Spafford, of Rockford, Winnebago Co.; Hon. Francis Colton, of Galesburg, Knox Co., and Hon. J. C. Smith, of Galena, Jo Daviess Co., to constitute, in connection with Hon. F. L. Matthews, of Carlinville, Macoupin Co., and Hon. Lawrence Weldon, of Bloomington, McLean Co., a state board of managers to represent the interests of the State of Illinois at the international exposition, held in the city of Philadelphia.

The twenty-ninth general assembly appropriated the sum of \$10,000 to defray the expenses of the board of managers, and to aid in a proper representation of the industries of the state at the exhibition.

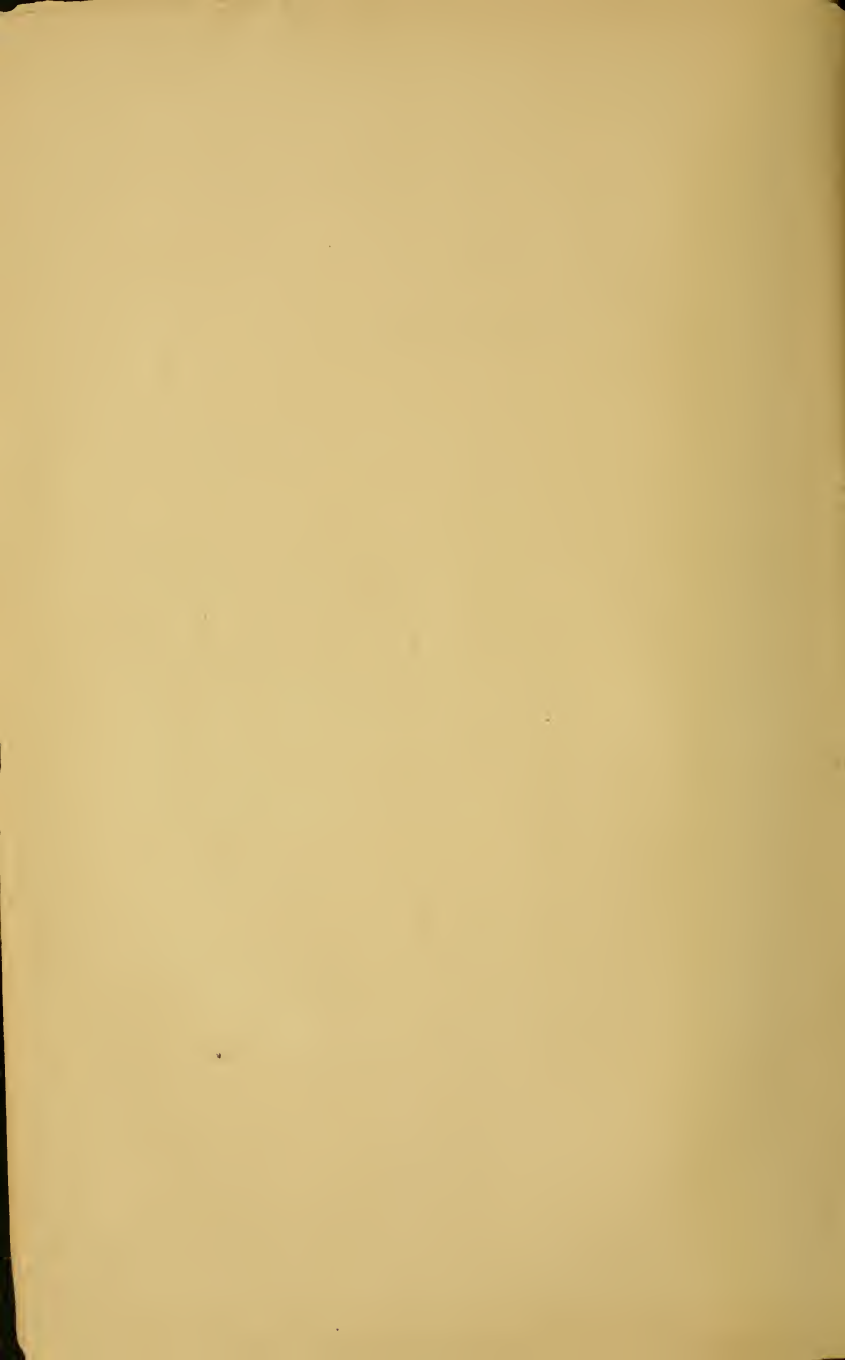
The board of managers are required to make an annual report of their doings in the premises, and I have the honor herewith to submit their second annual report.

The duties of the board were delicate and responsible, and were faithfully performed, as will be attested by the many thousands who visited the centennial exhibition.

The secretary of the board rendered valuable services, giving much time and labor to effect a fair representation of the mining, agricultural, mechanical, manufacturing, educational, and other interests of our state, and to provide for the comfort of our citizens who visited the centennial grounds, and I join the state board of managers in the recommendation of compensation for his services.

[Signed.]

JOHN L. BEVERIDGE, *Governor.*





# REPORT.

OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF CENTENNIAL MANAGERS, }  
CHICAGO, ILL., December, 1876. }

*To his Excellency, John L. Beveridge, Governor of Illinois :*

In accordance with a joint resolution of the General Assembly, authorizing the appointment of a "State Board of Managers to represent the interests of this State at the Centennial Exhibition to be held in the city of Philadelphia, in 1876," which resolution requires the said board to report their proceedings to your Excellency, that they may be submitted to the General Assembly, we hereby present a report of the work done by this board, together with a financial statement of expenditures.

## ORGANIZATION.

Under the joint resolution above referred to, your Excellency appointed the following named gentlemen, as the State Board of Managers :

Hon. John P. Reynolds, Chicago; Hon. Carlile Mason, Chicago; Hon. A. C. Spafford, Rockford; Hon. Francis Colton, Galesburg; General J. C. Smith, Galena.

The United States commissioner and alternate, Hon. Fred. L. Matthews, of Carlinville, and Hon. Lawrence Weldon, of Bloomington, were made members of the board by the resolution aforesaid. This board convened in the city of Chicago, June 9th, 1874, and organized by the election of John P. Reynolds, as President, and J. C. Smith, as Secretary.

The organization having been perfected, a general plan of work was mapped out; notice was given through the President to agriculturists, inventors, manufacturers, and others of the coming international exhibition; correspondence had with the Director-General and other officers of the United States Centennial Commission, and plans agreed upon to secure space and promote the interests of exhibitors from this State.

To accomplish the above it required the time, labor and money of the board, and as there was no authority granted in the act of the 28th General Assembly, to incur any expense on behalf of the State, an appeal was made to the 29th General Assembly, for an appropriation

to defray the expenses of this board in performance of the duties assigned them. In response to the appeal of the state board of managers, contained in our last report, and recommended by your Excellency in submitting the same to the legislature, the following bill was introduced into and adopted by the 29th General Assembly:

A BILL

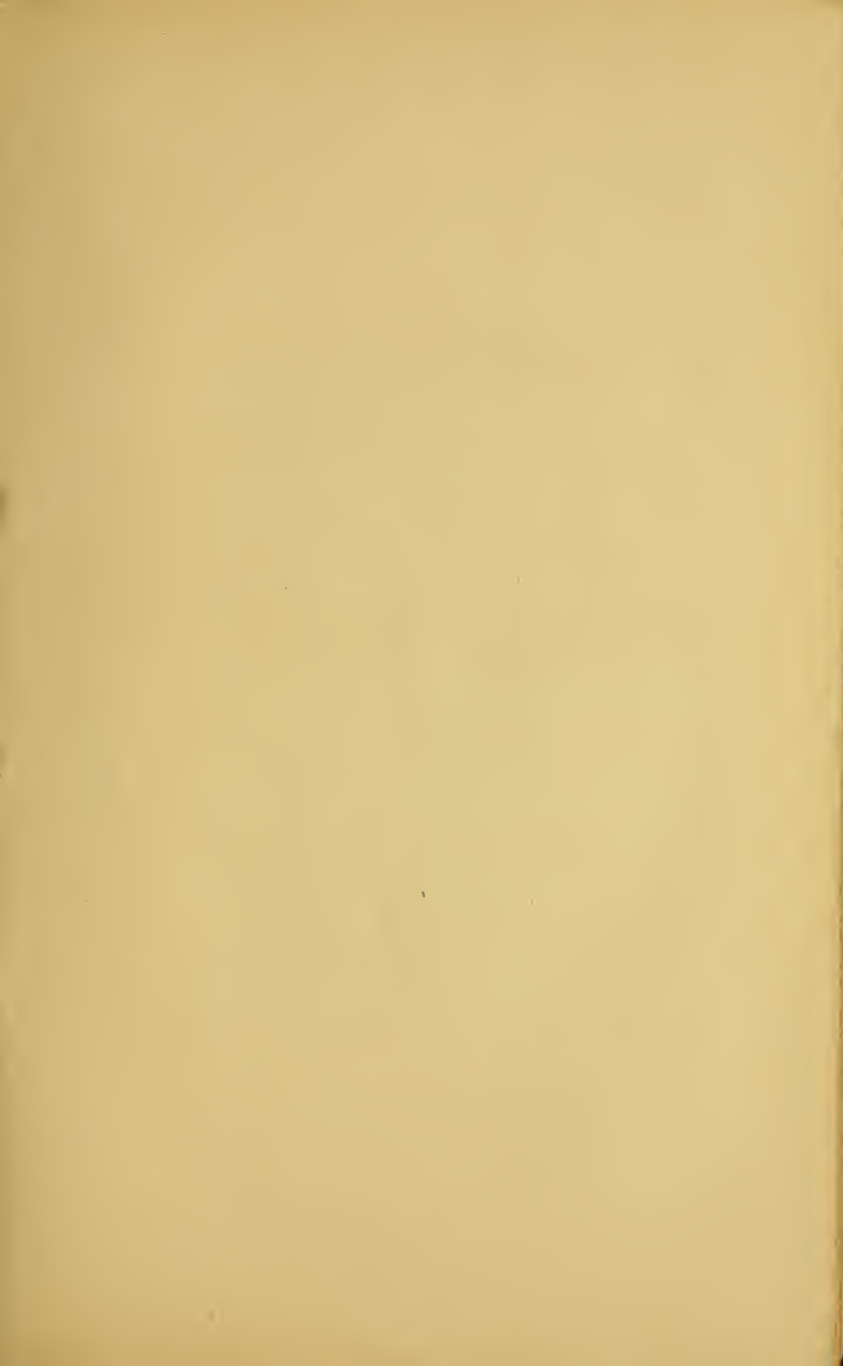
For an Act to appropriate money to defray the expenses of the state board of managers to represent Illinois in the centennial exposition at Philadelphia in 1876, and facilitate a proper representation of this State in said exposition.

*Whereas*, In accordance with a joint resolution by the 28th General Assembly, a state board of managers, to represent the interests of Illinois in the centennial exposition at Philadelphia in 1876, have been appointed; and

*Whereas*, It is necessary to a proper discharge of their duties that the state should defray the necessary expenses thereof. Therefore,

SEC. 1. Be it enacted by the people of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly, That the sum of ten thousand dollars or so much thereof, as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated to the use of the state board of managers, to represent Illinois in the international exposition to be held at Philadelphia in 1876, under the auspices of the United States centennial commission.

SEC. 2. The auditor is hereby directed to draw his warrant upon the treasurer upon vouchers approved by the governor, for the expenses incurred by said state board of managers and certified by the president and secretary of said board; *Provided*, that the members of said board of managers shall receive no compensation for their services.



PHILADELPHIA U. S. AMERICA

APRIL 19<sup>th</sup>. - OCTOBER 19<sup>th</sup> 1876



MAIN EXHIBITION BUILDING.

INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION

# 1776. INTERNATIONAL EXPOSITION 1876.

AND

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

OF OUR

# NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE.

*To the Agriculturists, Manufacturers and Scientists of Illinois.*

The undersigned state board of managers, realizing the important duty resting upon them of preparing and securing a proper exhibit of the products of this State in the approaching international exposition and centennial celebration at Philadelphia, earnestly appeal to the farmers, miners, mechanics, inventors, manufacturers and producers, of Illinois, and to all others interested in this peace congress of the nations of the world.

This board feel justified in saying to you that the exposition is an assured success. Appropriately located in Fairmount Park, Philadelphia, a magnificent tract of land of three thousand seven hundred acres, three hundred and forty acres of which are being graded and beautified for the centennial buildings, within four miles of the old state house, in which the memorable declaration of man's inalienable rights to "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness," was signed. No more suitable site could have been selected.

The number and size of the buildings now in course of erection for the exposition, are as follows:

Main Building—Of iron and glass, 1,880 feet in length, by 464 feet in width, and 70 feet in height; floor area, 21 acres.

Art Gallery, or Memorial Hall—Of granite, iron, and glass, 365 feet in length, 210 feet in width, and 59 feet in height, surmounted by a dome; floor area, 2 acres.

Machinery Building—360 feet wide, 1,402 feet long, with addition on south side 208 feet by 210 feet, interior height to elevators, 70 feet; floor space, 14 acres. This building is to be of masonry, iron, timber, and glass, roof well trussed and secured with wrought iron tie beams and studs; eight main lines of shafting run the entire length of the building.

Horticultural Building—383 feet long, 193 feet wide, and 72 feet high; floor space, 2 acres, to be properly heated and secured from fire.

Agricultural Building—820 feet in length, 540 feet in width, and 75 feet in height, in transept and nave; building gothic, of wood and glass; floor space, 10 acres.

Near this building will be the stock yards for the exhibition of horses, cattle, sheep, swine, etc., for which suitable sheds and stables will be erected.

The other buildings will consist of one or more hotels, railroad depot, and buildings for use of commissioners and others employed in and about the exposition. In addition to the above, the United States government is engaged in the erection of a building, the floor of which will embrace four and one-half acres in which to exhibit the books and accounts of the government, and the method of transacting business in the army, navy, mint, patent office, treasury, and postal departments, as well as the magnificent collection of the Smithsonian institute.

The exhibition will open on the 10th of May, 1876, and close on the 10th of November, following.

#### CLASSIFICATION.

The general regulations provide for ten departments, with subdivisions and groups. The ten departments are as follows:

1. Raw materials—mineral, vegetable and animal.
2. Materials and manufactures used for food or in the arts, the result of extractive or combining processes.
3. Textile and felted fabrics; apparel, costumes and ornaments for the person.
4. Furniture and manufactures of general use in construction and in dwellings.
5. Tools, implements, and processes.
6. Motors and transportation.
7. Apparatus and method for the increase and diffusion of knowledge.
8. Engineering, public works, architecture, &c.
9. Plastic and graphic arts.
10. Objects illustrating efforts for the improvement of the physical, intellectual and moral condition of man.

Exhibitors will not be charged for space.

A limited quantity of steam and water power will be supplied gratuitously. The quantity of each will be settled definitely at the time of the allotments of space.

The installation of heavy articles requiring foundations, should, by special arrangement, be begun as soon as the progress of the work upon the buildings will permit it. The general reception of articles at the exhibition buildings will be commenced on January 1, 1876, and no articles will be admitted after March 31st, 1876, except articles of a perishable nature, which can be delivered at any time before the opening day.

Space not occupied on the 1st of April, 1876, will revert to the director-general for re-assignment.

It is not within the province of this brief circular to give a detailed classification of goods, location of grounds, drawings of buildings, or

organization of the national commission, as papers containing a full description of the same may be had on application to the secretary of this board.

Your particular attention is called to the fact that it is highly important that this board be notified at the earliest possible time by all who desire space in which to exhibit works of art, inventions, manufactured articles, products of the mine, quarry or soil; of the character of the articles, space required and power needed, that their applications may be forwarded through this office to the director-general.

Illinois has within her territory almost unlimited resources, with a soil and climate capable of growing all the products of the temperate zone; with vast deposits of coal and mineral wealth; with scientific inventors and skilled artisans, the Prairie State has every essential requisite to render her department attractive and creditable.

Upon you, however, rests the responsibility and labor necessary to make a proper exhibit in this international exposition, where the products of your soil, mines, workshops and studios may be examined by the representative people of the civilized world, and whereby our state may invite the capital of other nations to aid in the development of your industries.

We close our appeal with an earnest request that you promptly forward a brief description of the articles you wish to exhibit, and an application for space—blanks for which can be had on application, by mail or otherwise, from the secretary of this board, who will promptly answer all questions relating to the international exposition.

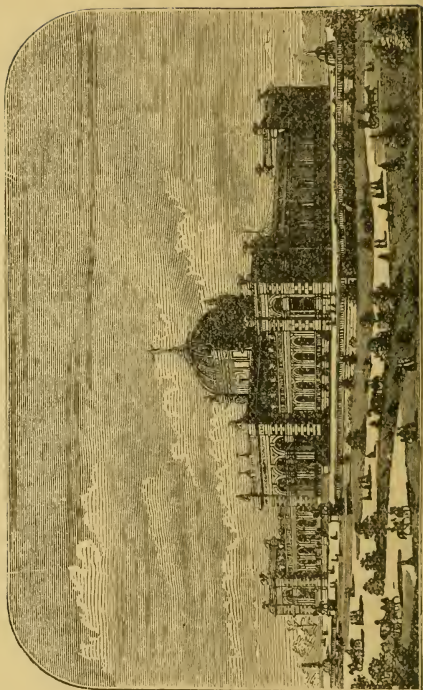
Address,

GENERAL J. C. SMITH,  
*Secretary State Centennial Board.*

85 Washington street, Chicago, Ill.

JOHN P. REYNOLDS, *President*, Chicago.  
F. L. MATTHEWS, *U. S. Com'r*, Carlinville.  
LAWRENCE WELDON, *Alternate*, Bloomington.  
CARLILE MASON, Chicago.  
FRANCIS COLTON, Galesburg.  
AMOS C. SPAFFORD, Rockford.  
J. C. SMITH, *Secretary*.

Through the active agency of the press, which exhibited more interest than had been anticipated, applications for space were rapidly forwarded, and the correspondence of the secretary's office largely increased. Dr. J. M. Gregory, regent of the industrial university, was the first to make application for space in which to make a full display of the mechanical and scientific departments of his school. At the same time the different state institutions, through their boards of managers or superintendents, were invited to unite with him in one general plan of action. The state normal school, colleges and seminaries were then aroused, and united with the public schools, under the superintendent of public instruction, Hon. S. M. Etter, Dr. J. M. Gregory generously surrendered the space awarded him, and all uniting in one application, space was secured for one grand educational display, which reflected credit upon the State. The state board of agriculture, under its efficient officers and the immediate superintendence of the committee, consisting of Louis Ellsworth, secretary, S. D. Fisher and H. D. Emery, began the collection of cereals and other products of the soil.



ART GALLERY.



## CIRCULARS TO THE PUBLIC.

Circulars were issued, and the public were informed at all times of the progress made in the erection of the buildings by the United States commissioners, as well as the work being done by the state board, of which circulars the following addressed to the press was among the most important :

TO THE EDITORS OF ILLINOIS.

GENTLEMEN :—I am directed by the state board of centennial managers to request the aid of yourself and the influence of your press to remind the farmers, miners, mechanics, and inventors of Illinois that the time in which to file applications for space in the industrial exposition at Philadelphia has nearly expired, and to urge upon them the importance of making a full exhibit of their farms, mines, and workshops.

The following is the action of the state board, which please copy, and call the attention of your readers thereto :

At a recent meeting of the state board of centennial managers, held in Chicago, resolutions were adopted to which we wish to call the attention of all our readers, and particularly those who have articles which they wish to exhibit in the state centennial exposition of 1876. We would impress upon their minds the fact that all applications for space must be made immediately, that our state may be fully and creditably represented. No manufacturing establishment of any importance can afford to lose this splendid opportunity for exhibiting its specialties of manufactured articles, machinery or fabrics. Self-interest, state pride, national honor demand an immediate effort on the part of all such parties.

Not only should manufacturers, agriculturists, and inventors make their applications, but also the proprietors of mines and quarries should secure space immediately for the exhibition of raw materials, neatly prepared, so that the various excellencies of their products may be properly shown.

Facilities for transportation and exhibition will be secured by the state centennial board, and information given in due time.

*Resolved*, That the proprietors of the different newspapers published in the state of Illinois be requested to furnish a file of their journals from May 10, 1876, to November 10, 1876, to be placed in the reading-room of the Illinois headquarters for the benefit of the citizens visiting the centennial.

*Resolved*, That we earnestly solicit a general and hearty co-operation of the press of the state in urging the importance of immediate attention to this matter, and especially in strongly impressing upon the public the fact that within the next thirty days all applications for space must be filed. Warmly appreciating the value of the generous efforts put forth by the press to aid us in securing a representation in the Illinois department, we respectfully request that they will give conspicuous reference to the fact that applications for space in the Illinois department must be made prior to December 1st to General J. C. Smith, secretary of the Illinois state centennial board, No. 85 Wash-

ington street, Chicago, and that the reception of articles at the exposition buildings will begin January 5th, and close April 10th, the exposition to open May 10th, and close November 10th, 1876.

*Resolved*, That the state board of centennial managers most heartily approve of the formation of the woman's centennial association, and cordially commend their organization to the citizens of the state at large.

*Resolved*, That the secretary of this board be instructed to forward a copy of these proceedings to each newspaper in the state, with a request that they publish the same.

JOHN P. REYNOLDS, *President*.  
 F. L. MATTHEWS, Carlinville.  
 LAWRENCE WELDON, Bloomington.  
 CARLILE MASON, Chicago.  
 FRANCIS COLTON, Galesburg.  
 AMOS C. SPAFFORD, Rockford.  
 J. C. SMITH, *Secretary*.

#### STATE BUILDING.

It early became apparent to your board that they would be compelled to erect a state building in Fairmount Park, at Philadelphia, for the accommodation of the citizens of the state visiting the exposition in attendance as exhibitors—a place where our people could receive and write letters, consult files of their home newspapers, register their names so as to enable them to find friends, obtain information relating to the exposition, and, more important than all these, a place under the charge of competent persons where they could congregate for conversation and rest, and when sick they could be cared for.

How to erect and maintain such a building with the limited means at the command of your board, was a serious question. Other states and countries were engaged in the erection of such buildings, or perfecting plans for the same. None of these, however, had at their command resources so limited as the state board of Illinois. There were erected upon the centennial grounds in Fairmount Park some twenty-five state buildings, and twelve for the use of visitors from foreign countries, all under the charge of their respective commissioners. Of the former, those of New Jersey and Michigan cost \$15,000.00 or more, while the buildings erected by the British commission, and afterwards presented to the city of Philadelphia, were constructed at an expense of \$55,000.00. About one-third of these buildings were small, having few or no conveniences, while the other two-thirds were upon a much larger plan than that finally adopted by your board. The reason for this was that the state boards of the latter had at their disposal sums varying from twenty thousand to fifty thousand dollars and more, while Illinois had but ten thousand dollars.

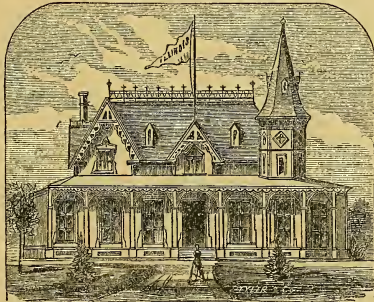
Having decided upon the erection of a building alike creditable to the State and suited to the wants of our people, architects and builders were consulted, when it was found that to secure this result it would become necessary to abandon the publication of the contemplated history of Illinois, a book, for which much of the material had been prepared and which was intended to contain a brief account of

the early settlement and political history of the State, its geology, climatology, coal fields, minerals, soil and agricultural productions. This book had been intended for distribution and exchange with the foreign and state commissioners.

On a careful consideration it was decided to return all manuscripts prepared by the state officers and other persons, and that no book be published, as all money at the command of this board would be required for the erection and maintenance of the proposed building. This manuscript was returned, except that portion prepared by the Hon. Anson S. Miller of Rockford, which relates to the early history of this state, and contains valuable information collected during the busy life of the writer. We submit this paper with our report that it may be printed as a part thereof.

Plans and specifications for the building were prepared free of charge, by Messrs. Wheelock & Thomas, architects, of Chicago, and the contract for the erection of the same was let to Jonathan Clark, a practical builder, of the same city.

The state board takes pleasure in acknowledging the kindness of each of these gentlemen, as they will, in the proper place, the indebtedness to all persons who came to their aid in the donation of material with which to assist in erecting and furnishing this building in a manner creditable to the state.



DESCRIPTION OF BUILDING.

The state building was of the gothic style, and designed to represent an Illinois farm house or suburban residence, such as is frequently seen in the vicinity of large cities, the exterior, as well as interior being painted a pure white. It presented a neat and bright appearance, the more marked by reason of being the only white building on the centennial grounds, thereby attracting the attention of all the persons passing along the State avenue; it was very properly just west of the Indiana state building, and east of the Wisconsin. The house was forty by sixty, with a rear addition two stories high, and of irregular

form, with two gables in front, the central one being lower than that at the west end. At the southeast corner was a tower, octagon in form, surmounted with a beautiful spire and a tall tapering staff, from which floated our nation and state colors during the entire exhibition. On the east, west, and north sides were constructed gables similar to those in front, since the building could be viewed from all sides, it being located on a plat of ground beautifully laid out in shrubbery, flowers, and graveled walks. In the front and centre of this plat, on a raised pedestal, was placed a fine bust of Abraham Lincoln, kindly loaned by the Chicago zinc roofing and ornamental works, of Chicago. A piazza, extending along the entire front of the building, as also the east and west sides, thus furnishing shade and a pleasant resting place to all visitors, at the same time being so situated as to command a fine view of nearly all the exhibition and state buildings. The piazzas were furnished with seats from the firm of A. H. Andrews & Co., of Chicago.

The main entrance doors opened into a reception room extending across the entire front, the floors and wainscoting of which was of white oak and black walnut, oiled and polished. At each end was a fire grate and handsome mantel of a peculiar shade and design, manufactured by the Frear marble stone company, of Chicago. These mantels attracted much attention, and from their beauty and novelty were the admiration of all visitors.

The room was furnished with suitable chairs and settees, a visitor's register was open to all Illinoisans, water coolers were kept constantly filled with ice water during the heated term, and in cold or wet weather a bright, cheerful fire was made in each of the fire grates. This room, so elegant in all its appointments, was made more attractive by the addition of many choice and valuable paintings, loaned by H. A. Elkins, an artist of Chicago; a cabinet organ from the house of A. Reed & Sons, of the same city, who also furnished the Chickering piano for the ladies' parlor, afforded ample opportunity for a display of skill on the part of amateur musicians, which they were not slow to embrace, and which proved very acceptable and entertaining to the visitors. From the main reception-room, and on the west side, opened a beautiful drawing-room for ladies, and from this, retiring and toilet rooms. The parlor was elegantly furnished with mahogany furniture, upholstered with crimson and gold by Messrs. James T. Allen & Co., of New York city, to whom the board are under special obligations for their generous liberality. The beautiful tapestry carpets were furnished by Messrs. Field, Leiter & Co., of Chicago, and the invalid chairs in the retiring-room, which did so much good service, were from the manufacturer, George Wilson, of the latter city.

This parlor was further adorned by the addition of choice paintings from Mr. Elkins, and the Chickering piano, before referred to, which was kept in constant use by the fair and accomplished daughters of the prairie state.

From the center of the main reception-room an arched passage led to an open stairway, with black walnut rail and ballusters, and wainscoting same as reception-room. This stairway led to the four upper rooms, which were for the use of the commissioners, the matron, and others employed in the charge of the building, and any person from

the state who might be taken suddenly ill. These rooms were neatly furnished by the Tobey manufacturing company, of Chicago.

This arched passage-way also led to the rear addition, which was divided into a servant's-room, store-room for parcels, and gentlemen's toilet-room. East of the stairway was the reading-room, with floor and wainscoting of hard wood, in which were racks ranging around the entire room upon which were filed the various newspapers so kindly furnished by the entire editorial fraternity in all parts of the state, affording ample opportunity to visitors for reading papers and writing letters. Twenty-five reams of letter paper and twenty-eight thousand envelopes were furnished the citizens of our state free of charge, a courtesy fully appreciated by all, and the more marked from the fact that the Illinois state board was the only one which did so.

From the reading-room, and east of the same, was the secretary's private office, in which was located the letter-box (donated by C. A. Cook, of Chicago,) for the delivery of all mail directed to the state building. This was under the charge of a competent person, as was also the reading-room.

In the reception-room, ladies parlor, and reading-room were beautiful chandeliers, and in all other rooms there were pendants and bracket lights, kindly loaned by E. Baggot & Sons, of Chicago, and Messrs. Thackara, Buck & Co., of Philadelphia.

To these gentlemen, and all others whose names have thus far appeared in this report, this board, and the people of Illinois, are under a lasting debt of gratitude; it was owing to their generosity in furnishing, free of charge, the various articles named that the state building was made so comfortable and attractive.

The value of the Illinois building in comfort and convenience to the people of our state cannot be overestimated—visitors from all the states and foreign countries crossed its threshold, thousands entering its doors, of which more than seventy-five thousand were from Illinois, forty-five thousand of whom recorded their names on the elegant registers made and donated by Messrs. Culver, Page & Hoyne, of the city of Chicago. Two hundred and twenty-five newspapers, from various parts of the state, were regularly filed and daily consulted by thousands of visitors. Twenty-six thousand seven hundred and fifty-six letters were received and delivered, only six hundred and eighty-five being returned to the postoffice as uncalled for.

Seventeen hundred and fifty-eight packages were taken care of by the parcel clerk, not one of which was lost.

No charges were made and no money accepted from any person for newspapers, envelopes, letter paper, or any service rendered the visitors. In this respect the Illinois headquarters were an exception to all others in Fairmount park, and more particularly in the more important service rendered to the sick, over one hundred of whom were kindly and tenderly cared for by the lady in charge of the building, many being too ill to be removed for several days, not a sick person from our state was ever permitted to be taken from the building to the centennial hospital. No other state has such a record; none others provided for such an emergency.

To the gentlemen who assisted with their generous donations of material and furniture with which to help erect and furnish the state

building, this board is indebted; without their aid no building creditable to this, the fourth state in the union, could have been erected, or if erected, sustained. Encouraged by their liberality, and believing that the general assembly would make a proper allowance for the outlay, no individual expense was spared by those in charge of this building to sustain the dignity and honor of our state.

The estimated cost of this building was.....	\$6,735 65
Furnishing the same.....	3,552 30
Total.....	<u>\$10,387 95</u>

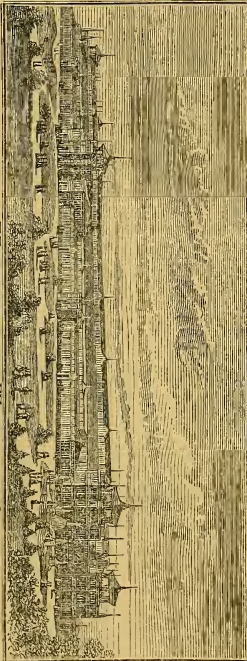
A sum larger than the state appropriated.

The names of those to whom this board are indebted for material aid are given at the close of this report.

PHILADELPHIA U.S. AMERICA

MAY 10<sup>th</sup> '76 NOVEMBER 10<sup>th</sup> 1876

INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION



MACHINERY HALL.

## CIRCULAR.

The following circular, one of several issued previous to the opening of the exposition, enumerate many of the uses for which the state building was erected. Electrotpe plates of this and several of the exhibition buildings accompany this report :

SECRETARY'S OFFICE  
CENTENNIAL STATE BOARD OF MANAGERS, }  
CHICAGO, May 1, 1876.

DEAR SIR :—I am directed by the state board of managers to inform you that the state building will be completed on the 5th day of May, and request that you forward on the receipt of this circular, and continue until the close of the exposition (November 10), one copy of your paper, to be placed on file for the use of visitors.

The state building has been erected for the accommodation of the citizens of Illinois attending the international exposition, to provide a place where they may consult files of their state journals, meet with friends, receive their mails, and obtain information pertaining to the exposition.

There will be a competent person in charge of the state building who will at all times give such information as may be required, and a clerk with whom all small packages may be deposited, who will take charge of such articles as shawls, overcoats, satchels, etc., free of charge.

There will be one reception-room for general use, with private parlor and wash-room for the ladies; a reading-room in which daily and weekly files of the state newspapers will be found, and where the representatives of the press will find suitable accommodation.

A register will be kept, in which all visitors will be requested to enter their names, home residences, where stopping in the city, and how long they will remain.

This will prove valuable for reference, and enable every one to find their friends.

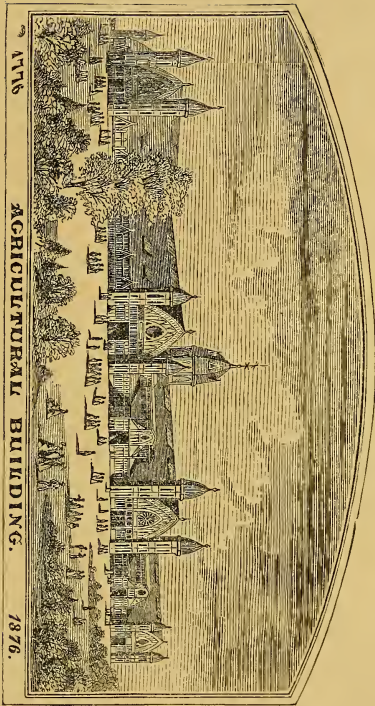
All persons wishing to receive their mail at the state building will have it addressed to their name, care Illinois state building, centennial grounds, Philadelphia, Pa.

All newspapers for file, and letters on matters pertaining to the exposition, should be addressed to General J. C. Smith, Illinois state building, centennial grounds, Philadelphia, Pa. As this circular contains matters of general information to the people, you will please give it publicly through your columns.

Respectfully yours,

J. C. SMITH, *Secretary.*





AT 76

AGRICULTURAL BUILDING.

1876.

## INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION.

Of the general exhibition, the good effect upon the industries of the nation, advantages to all classes of visitors, and grand success, it is not necessary to speak in detail, as more full and elaborate reports will be published by the United States commission, who alone have the proper material from which to give all the facts. It can be said that in this exposition, Illinois did her part, and did it well, ranking as sixth in number of exhibitors and amount of space occupied. The citizens of this state bore off their full share of the prizes, very many of whom have expressed, in terms of gratitude, their indebtedness to your State Board for their labors in securing to them a full and impartial consideration of the merits of their exhibits.

When we consider our distance from the place of exhibition, the fact that trade is still depressed from the late panic, our principal city not yet recovered from the disastrous conflagration which destroyed the leading business houses, the result is very gratifying.

We regret our inability to give a list of our exhibitors who have received the grand medal and diploma of the exhibition, no completed list of awards having yet been made public, but will be, in due time, by the United States Centennial Commission.

Of the educational exhibit, made under the direct superintendence of Dr. J. M. Gregory, Hon. S. M. Etter, and their able assistants, embracing, as it did, the entire educational system of the public and normal schools, seminaries and colleges, industrial university, charitable and penal institutions of the state, we cannot speak too highly.

Occupying two alcoves in the south gallery of the main building, and a large space in the mineral annex, there were few school exhibits which proved so attractive, and none were more deserving of notice.

We are pleased to note that an award was given to this display.

What has been said of the educational collection applies with equal force to that made by the State Board of Agriculture, collected by the members of that Board, and under the special charge of H. S. Emory and Jonathan Periam. No other state exhibit surpassed that of Illinois in quantity, classification and arrangement of cereals and completeness of details. An award was also made to this department.

Of the number of buildings, their style and architecture and adaptability to the purposes for which they were erected, it is unnecessary to speak in detail; suffice it to say that no previous exhibition has ever equalled that of 1876, and it is not probable that any country will ever attempt another of so great a magnitude, but efforts will probably hereafter be directed to the collection of a maximum quantity of the best of the world's goods in a minimum of space.

There were over two hundred buildings for exhibition, state and other purposes, erected in Fairmount Park, and, great as was the success of this international fair in size, number of buildings, variety and superiority of goods on exhibition, it was equally so in point of numbers of visitors and receipt of entrance fees.

A comparison with the three principal ones which have preceded this of the American people will be of particular interest.

LONDON EXHIBITION OF 1862—*Open 171 days.*

Total amount of receipts.....	\$1,977,285 60
Total visitors.....	6,211,103

PARIS EXHIBITION, 1867—*Open, (Sundays included,) 117 days.*

Total amount of receipts.....	\$2,036,359 12
Total visitors.....	6,805,969
Maximum number admitted in one day, (Sunday, October 27,).....	173,923

VIENNA EXHIBITION, 1873—*Open, (Sundays included,) 186 days.*

Total amount received.....	\$999,351 30
Total visitors.....	6,740,500

PHILADELPHIA EXPOSITION, 1876—*Open 159 days.*

Total amount received.....	\$4,261,352 45
Total visitors.....	9,910,966
Maximum number admitted in one day, Thursday, September 28.....	274,919

The above statement of the Philadelphia exhibition is subject to revision, and will be increased. The figures prove the success of the American exhibition, not only in number of admissions but amount of receipts, and maximum number of visitors admitted in one day. Paris, situated in the center of a dense population, led the three European exhibitions, and, in number of admissions in one day, was so far in advance of the other two that we omit their figures. It will be noticed that the largest number of admissions to the Paris exhibition was on Sunday, while that of Philadelphia was on what was known as Pennsylvania day, Thursday, September 28. The latter was not open to the public on the Sabbath.

The exhibition opened on May 10th, with great ceremonies, the main buildings having been completed in ample time for the reception of goods. There was no delay on the part of the commission, as there was on that of the exhibitors, many of whom were not in position before the last of the month.

After a successful continuance of one hundred and fifty-nine days, without one single incident to mar the pleasure of the exhibitors or visitors, the great exhibition closed November 10th, with appropriate ceremonies, the President of the United States officiating as at the opening.

On the close of the exhibition it remained for your Board to dispose of the property in their keeping.

The state building was sold for a sum much larger in proportion to its cost than that of any other building on the ground.

This was owing to the fact that it had been erected with a view to its practical use when no longer needed in Fairmount Park.

All articles loaned to or in charge of the board were carefully boxed and returned to the owners, the state board paying all expenses.

Many valuable catalogues, publications, and pamphlets, relating to the exhibition, countries, or states, participating therein, having been collected, were forwarded to the principal libraries of the state; a large package including the visitors' registers being forwarded to the Hon. Geo. H. Harlow, secretary of state, for the state library.

In exchange for the various books collected, your board distributed several thousand volumes of the valuable reports of the State Board of Railroad and Warehouse Commissioners, Chicago Board of Trade, Chicago Board of Public Works, and Chicago Pork Packers Association. All these works contained information relative to the trade of Chicago, and the railroad system of Illinois, which was eagerly sought for by the representatives of all the foreign countries.

#### CONCLUSION.

It is eminently proper before closing this report, to call attention to the fact, that the members of the state board of managers received no compensation for their services, as the act of the General Assembly prohibited such payment. This was unnecessary, the appropriation being too small to admit of it being done.

It should, however, be borne in mind that the appropriation was made two winters before the opening of the exhibition, and before the duties of the state board had been properly defined by the national commission, or their labors could be approximated. Now, that their work has been done, and the result of their labors seen and enjoyed by the thousands of visitors from this state, it is submitted that some acknowledgement be made for their loss of time, and as a slight recompense for the valuable services rendered.

Of the duties of the secretary, it is sufficient to say that one full year of his time was devoted to the service of the state board of managers, and in the furtherance of "the interests of this state at the international exhibition," during the greater part of which time he was without a clerk to aid, called upon to fill an important trust, the secretary was not relieved from any of his responsibility or labor, as the work of his office increased in proportion to the increased help given him. To be able to keep up the work assigned the secretary, and not neglect other trusts, the time necessary for the protection of his private business, and for rest, was devoted to the service of this board—in this State and at Philadelphia—until the completion of all its duties, the settlement of all its liabilities, and the surrender of its trust to the source from which it emanated. No compensation has been paid for these services.

Of the various persons in the employ of this board, it is a pleasing duty to report, that called upon often by thoughtless visitors to perform unreasonable services, they conducted themselves in such a manner, as to win the respect and receive the thanks of all visitors to the state building.

Of the superintendent and matron in charge of the building is this particularly true.

No compensation was paid the matron for the reason that the funds

were too small to permit of this being done, notwithstanding this board ordered the employment of this person. Yet this lady devoted all her time to the charge of the building and was unremitting in her attention to the visitors who were taken ill upon the premises. To her is this board indebted for much of the success which attended the administration of affairs at the state building, as are the one hundred or more persons who under her kind ministrations were probably saved from a long and painful, if not fatal illness.

JOHN P. REYNOLDS,  
CARLILE MASON,  
A. C. SPAFFORD,  
F. L. MATTHEWS,  
F. COLTON,  
LAWRENCE WELDON.

(Attest) J. C. SMITH, *Secretary*.

At a regular meeting of the state board of managers held January 2d, 1877, the following resolution was adopted and ordered to be made part of the above report :

*Resolved*, That in view of the extraordinary and unexpected services required of the secretary, for the past two and one-half years, in connection with the duties devolved upon this board, we hereby respectfully and earnestly suggest and recommend that the sum of three thousand dollars (\$3,000) be appropriated by the General Assembly to Secretary Smith in compensation for such services.

(Attest)

J. C. SMITH, *Secretary*.

## FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

*State Board of Managers, January 2nd, 1877.*

<i>Cr.</i>	
Clerical services, Superintendent and others, at State Building.....	\$2,188 59
Commissioners, expense of.....	1,746 25
Postage.....	260 60
Rent of offices and other expenses.....	499 05
Printing and stationery.....	417 25
Telegrams.....	95 20
Advance to Women's Centennial Association.....	400 00
Freight and expressage .....	864 21
History of Illinois.....	50 00
State headquarters, Centennial grounds, Philadelphia, constructing, furnishing and other expenses.....	4,987 42
Total.....	\$11,508 57
<i>Dr.</i>	
To appropriation.....	\$10,000 00
" rebate in freight, B. and O. R. R.....	60 00
" Women's Centennial Association.....	400 00
" Sale of State headquarters.....	1,000 00
" sale of sundry furniture.....	48 57
Total.....	\$11,508 57

J. C. SMITH, Secretary.

## CONTRIBUTORS.

## LUMBER.

Dean Bros., Chicago.  
 J. H. Whitlock, Chicago.  
 J. Beidler & Bro., "  
 Bigelow Bros., "  
 Henry Barker & Co., Chicago.  
 Ludington, Wells & Van Schaack, Chicago.  
 S. W. Harvey, Chicago.  
 Ford River Lumber Company, Chicago.  
 S. R. Martin "  
 Noble & Little, Chicago.  
 J. A. B. Waldo, "  
 Charles Reitz & Bro., Chicago.  
 Henry Curtis & Co., "  
 A. Weed & Co., "  
 F. A. White, "  
 McDonald & Roe, "  
 T. M. Avery & Son, "  
 John Sheriff & Son, "  
 H. T. Porter, "  
 Hempstead & Beebe, Chicago.  
 Park & Soper, "  
 Hannah, Lay & Co., "  
 Street & Chatfield, "  
 Gardner & Spray, "  
 Bushnell, Walworth & Reed, Chicago.  
 Loomis & Davis, "  
 Loomis & Dalton, "  
 The Pestigo Lumber Company "  
 N. Ludington & Co., "  
 Chapin & Foss, "  
 McArthur, Smith & Co., "  
 The B. L. Anderson Company, "  
 C. C. Thompson & Co., "  
 Charnley Bros., "  
 Kirby, Carpenter & Co., "  
 Calkins & Fisher, "  
 Benton & Fuller, "

## HARD WOOD DEALERS.

Holmes & Co., Chicago.  
 Holbrook & Co., "  
 Hatch, Holbrook & Co., "  
 B. G. Gill & Co., "  
 Oglesbee & Mattingly.  
 M. & T. Lorden.

Holden & Pendleton.  
 C. M. White.  
 H. N. Holden.  
 Geo. E. White.

## MILL WORK.

Fullam & Co.,	Chicago.
John Wisdom,	"
Pond & Soper,	"
Hair & Odiorn,	"
Felix Lang,	"
Hall & Winch,	"
Will & Roberts,	"
Campbell Bros.,	"
Goss & Phillips,	"
Smith Bros. & Co.,	"
W. E. Frost & Co.,	"
Chas. J. L. Meyer,	"
T. Wilee & Co.,	"
Palmer, Fuller & Co.,	"
Merrill & Raymond,	"
S. J. Russell,	"
North Side Planing Mill Company,	Chicago.
Steinmetz & Simmons,	Chicago.
Soper & Brainard,	"
Pearson & Payn,	"

## HARDWARE.

Hibbard & Spencer,	Chicago.
Seeberger & Breakey,	"
E. Hunt Sons,	"
John V. Ayer & Son,	"
S. D. Kimbark,	"
Miller Bros. & Keep,	"
Wm. Blair & Co.,	"
Collins & Burgie,	"
Crane Bro.'s Manufacturing Company,	Chicago.

## PAINTS, GLASS, STATIONERY, &amp;C.

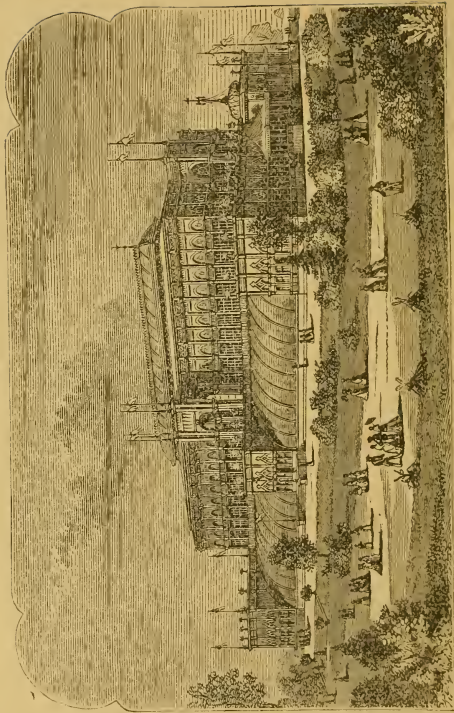
Heath & Milligan,	Chicago.
E. W. Blatchford & Co.,	Chicago.
A. M. King,	Chicago.
La Salle Glass Company,	La Salle.
Ottawa " " "	Ottawa.
Sand Blast Co.,	Chicago.
Rock River Paper Company,	Chicago.
Arnold, Barrett & Kimball,	"
J. M. W. Jones,	"
J. V. Farwell & Co.,	"
Goodyear Rubber Company,	"
Charles Gossage & Co.,	"
Keen, Cook & Co.,	"



Clark, Friend, Fox & Co., Chicago.  
 Oglesby, "  
 J. M. Butler & Co., "  
 Cleveland Paper Company, "  
 Knight & Leonard, "  
 A. L. Sewell, "  
 Warner & Beers, "  
 Williams, Donnelly & Co., "

NATIONAL AND STATE COLORS.

George F. Foster, Son & Co., Chicago.  
 Gilbert, Hubbard & Co., "



HORTICULTURAL HALL.

# HISTORY OF ILLINOIS.

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BY ANSON S. MILLER.

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ILLINOIS, the first of the United States in agricultural productions, and the fourth in population and political power, has an area of 55,405 square miles, resting on Lake Michigan east and the Mississippi west, and extending from the confluence of the Ohio with the latter on the south, to the line of the Missouri north, embracing a region unsurpassed in fertility of soil, healthiness of climate, mineral riches and commercial advantages combined. Evidently this young and rising state is great by natural position, which, with the stimulus given by the favored locality to the varied industry and enterprise of her citizens, sufficiently accounts for the unparalleled growth and prosperity of the state in the brief period of half a century.

Through the lakes, canals and railways, Illinois is closely connected with the east and north, and by the Mississippi and its tributaries on her whole western and southern border, her relations are intimate with the west and south, so that the interests of a majority of the states invest many of the improvements of Illinois with a national character, and the state itself has become the "key-stone" of an enlarged arch of thirty-eight states, as Pennsylvania was of the original thirteen colonies.

Already more miles of railway centre in the State of Illinois, than in any other political division on the globe; add to these her own web-work of railways, amounting in 1874 to 6,759 339-1000 miles, now probably 7000 miles, and she is in advance of any other state by many hundred miles. These railways, with her canals and many other internal improvements, furnish a complete system for the highways of commerce, while her rivers abound with hydraulic facilities for manufactures. Her main canal connects the northern lakes with the Mississippi river, thus uniting peoples and cities from the mouth of the St. Lawrence to the Gulf of Mexico, by a grand chain of continental communication.

Industrial pursuits in a country are mainly determined by its physical condition. Illinois is a happy illustration as evinced by individuals and societies; nearly or quite all of the one hundred and two counties of this state have well organized county agricultural societies and annual industrial fairs.

Our State society is headed by leading citizens of Illinois. Her extensive prairies of fertile and arable land, all cleared to hand, invited the farmers of older states to bring their plows and open to the sun the rich mould of a thousand golden autumns, and to drive their flocks and herds of useful domestic animals to feast and fatten on the grassy plains. What in a few years has been the result?

Illinois has been peopled with the young and energetic farmers of our own country and Europe. They have purchased the new unexhausted lands at low prices, and through industry and economy have made happy homes, and surrounded them with an abundance of the necessaries and luxuries of life, and have secured in different degrees competence, independence and affluence. Under these circumstances Illinois leads the Union as an agricultural state.

In the census of 1870 she appears with 25,882,861 acres of land in farms, excelling New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, and other great states.

The Illinois wheat crop is also reported in the same national statistics, 30,128,405 bushels, being more than that of any other state.

And then her corn crop, her staple grain, stands at 129,921,395 bushels, about sixty-one million bushels more than the highest of her sister states. With her vast fields for agriculture, came the necessity for labor saving machinery to aid in their cultivation, secure the crops and prepare them for market.

This necessity stimulated invention, and Illinois has been well supplied with every variety of agricultural implements by the genius of her own citizens.

The state has long furnished the Eastern markets with more fat cattle than any other western state. Stock raising in Illinois has grown to enormous proportions. Years have passed in which this state has furnished New York city with more live stock than all the other states combined. During 1866 the total number of cattle received at New York was 298,882; of this number 165,287 were received from Illinois alone. The aggregate value of all this live stock was \$33,223,723 12, and of the shipments from this State, was \$18,373,302 62.

This exhibit gives a just idea of the gigantic proportions of Illinois husbandry, which has greatly increased since 1866. The late Jacob Strawn, one of the greatest Illinois farmers of his day, turned off yearly, to the Eastern markets, thousands of fat cattle and hogs, and had cultivated on his land, some seasons, twenty thousand acres of corn distributed among his numerous tenants.

John T. Alexander, another of the distinguished farmers of this state, cultivated some 36,000 acres. A visitor to this mammoth farm gave the following description: "One corn-field was twelve miles long and from one-half to a mile wide, containing 5,500 acres. Standing on a corn crib the eye could see over five miles of corn, in opposite directions. During spring eighty-five plows were ran constantly to plow the field; fifteen planting machines put in the seed, and twenty cultivators dressed the rows.

This field yielded 220,000 bushels. A meadow of 2,500 acres of timothy and blue grass yielded 3,000 tons of hay, fifteen machines were run in mowing it, and horse forks stacked it. Timothy for seed, 400 acres, cut with a header, yielded 1,500 bushels. There were 6,000

acres of prairie pasture, and 12,000 of timothy, blue grass and clover, growing about 4,000 head of cattle. An osage hedge enclosed 27,000 acres, and several intersected the farm, making a total length of hedge equal to 130 miles. There were 80 miles of board fence on the farm.<sup>5</sup>

For years the state has surpassed all in the packing of beef and pork for home and foreign markets.

Geological structure as well as surface soil has had its influence on the business and general progress of Illinois. Among the early objections to settlement in the prairie state was the destitution of timber and fuel, and the preponderance of the open over the wooded lands.

The objection was balanced by the advantages of land cleared already for use. Again, it has been found that by keeping out the autumnal fires young forests will spring up on the prairies, so that now there are many thousand acres of such in the state and are constantly increasing.

But the fuel objection is fully answered by the existence of extensive and inexhaustible coal fields. Geological surveys of the most thorough and scientific character disclose the important fact that more than three fourths of the territory of Illinois is underlaid with coal, and that these fields or coal measures form an area of about 44,000 square miles, an extent almost as large as the state of New York. This abundance of coal not only supplies the people with cheap fuel, but works wonders in advancing the commerce and manufactures of the state.

Besides this profusion of coal, Illinois has the important metals of commerce, iron, copper, lead and other minerals, and unlimited supplies of lime and other fine quarries of stone; also, beds of sand, peat, gypsum, and saline springs, and, among all, the conveniences of a state enjoying all the blessings of temperate climate.

Introductory to this volume of the State Centennial Board of Illinois, a brief review of the history of the state is appropriate. Space, however, will permit but one epitome.

Illinois, and its chief interior river, derived their name from a powerful confederacy of Indian tribes that once occupied most of what is now the state and the surrounding region. Indeed, the territory of the nation, east of the Mississippi and north-west of the Ohio, now the seat of the states of Illinois, Ohio, Indiana, Michigan and Wisconsin, was formerly all included in the Illinois country.

The Indian tribes constituting the Illinois confederacy, and known under the general appellation in the history of the west, were the Kaskaskias, Cahokias, Peorias, Tamaroas, Michiganians, and lastly the Wisconsinians who came into the confederacy subsequently, having previously for years held friendly relations with the Illini, or Illinois, as the French called them. Considerable has been said and written concerning the etymology and meaning of the name Illinois. Father Hennepin, one of the early explorers of the west, called the Indians of this confederacy the Illini. Names in an unwritten language are liable to be misunderstood and misspelled, as they must depend wholly upon pronunciation for their orthography. If the word is to stand a designation of the tribes of this confederacy, Illinah instead of Illini is doubtless the better word, as it more nearly conforms to the guttural sounds common in the termination of Indian names,

and is more in accordance with the understanding of the French in their pronunciation of the word. The name Illinois is partly French and partly Indian, the latter part being the usual French affix *ois*. The name Illinois is derived from *Lenno*, "man." The Delaware Indians called themselves Lenno Lenape, which in the Algonquin language means "real man," the word nape meaning male; hence Lenno Lenape means "manly man," distinguishing from mean, trifling or dishonorable man. The tribes of the Illinois gave the French explorers to understand that they were original, unmixed, real men for excellence, a proud designation to be maintained forever inviolable by their enlightened successors in this great and rising state, inheriting the name of the "Manly People," the "Real Men." We refer to the Indians of this confederacy as among the aboriginal inhabitants of this state. Yet they informed the early explorers of America that their fathers emigrated from other regions, and that other races, unknown to the Indians, were their predecessors. Monuments of a prehistoric race—mounds of different forms and dimensions, and relics of articles never made and used by the Indians—appear all over the continent, evincing a degree of science in the mound builders—we have no other name for them—sufficient for the completion of symmetrical structures, and perfect geometrical figures. These unknown people of a remote antiquity occupied America ages before Columbus discovered the new world, and passed away from the circles of the living antecedents to the dawn of history. Tradition, even, is silent alike as to their origin, and the periods, respectively, of their existence and extinction. Many of these ancient works in Illinois and elsewhere are stupendous.

The largest mound in the United States is situated on the Cahokia, which crosses the American bottom, opposite St. Louis. It is eight hundred yards in circumference at the base and contains on top three and one fourth acres. Other mounds of various magnitude abound on the Rock River at Rockford, some having the shape of animals, and so in other parts of the State. At Circleville, Ohio, were extraordinary works—two forts of vast dimensions near each other, the one an exact circle sixty rods in diameter, and the other a perfect square sixty-five rods on each side. The circular fortification was surrounded by two walls, with an intervening ditch twenty feet in depth. Interesting relics of domestic utility, ancient pottery, brick and other building material have been found in the ruins of a buried city at Aztalan, Wisconsin, and in numerous other localities. These remnants of departed grandeur appeared as ancient to the first European discoverers as they do to us, and must be regarded as proof of a former civilization far in advance of any of the Indian nations, and shrouded in oblivion beyond the reach of our chronology.

Louis Joliet and Jacques Marquette were both educated men, and men of superior natural endowments and mental culture. Marquette was born at Saron, France, in 1637, was educated for the Roman Catholic priesthood, and at an early age entered the order of the Jesuits, and emigrated to Canada as a missionary in 1666. Joliet was born a few years later than 1637, at Quebec—was educated at the Jesuit college at Quebec. Both spoke and understood different languages, and have the honor of being the first European discoverers of the upper Mississippi, and

the earliest white explorers of the Illinois country. Discoveries in America had preceded theirs by nearly two centuries. Columbus had attained his world wide fame in 1492. The Cabots and Americus Vesputius had crowned the same century with their successful exploits. DeLeon had discovered Florida in 1512. Verrazzoni, in the interest of France, had explored the coast of North Carolina, Delaware, New Jersey and Rhode Island, in 1524. Cartier had sailed up the St. Lawrence in 1534. DeSoto had entered the valley of the Lower Mississippi. Jamestown, Virginia, had been founded in 1607.

Champlain had commenced the building of Quebec in 1608, Hudson had entered the splendid harbor of New York and sailed up the noble river that bears his name in 1609. The Mayflower had landed the pilgrims at Plymouth in 1620, and other important deeds had distinguished the important period of American discoveries before the upper Mississippi exploration.

Under the auspices of Frontenac, Governor of Canada, and Talon, the Intendant, Joliet and Marquette entered on an exploring expedition to discover the great river of the west, its general course and its ocean termination. Preparations having been completed, the explorers with five voyageurs left Mackinaw in two birch bark canoes on the 17th day of May, 1673, and reached the Wisconsin by way of Green-bay, Fox River, Lake Winnebago, and the portage, June 10th. Down the Wisconsin they floated their canoes by day, and encamped upon its banks by night. Suddenly on 17th June, just one month from their departure from Mackinaw, as they passed the Grand Meadows, now the site of Fort Crawford and the city of Prairie du Chien, the sublime scenery of the Mississippi burst upon the gladdened vision of the explorers, and as the grand river rolled down its mighty volume of flood at full banks, with its deep channel and broad bosom, they exclaimed with unspeakable enthusiasm in their own expressive language: *Rio Grande! Rio Grande!*—giving the same idea as the Indian name Mississippi. Marquette says: "We entered the great river with a joy I cannot express." Such was the rejoicing over a signal discovery on the 17th of June, 1673, a day and month again to be immortalized about a century after, by the first great battle of the American revolution on Bunker Hill.

Pursuing their course down the Mississippi, the explorers, upon landing some days after, espied human foot-prints on the sand, and soon found an Indian village of the Illinois confederacy, whose inhabitants were the first persons whom they had seen since they had entered the Wisconsin.

The Indians were delighted with their visitors, and entertained them with a bountiful feast at the lodge of the principal chief. Speeches were made and presents and compliments exchanged by the parties, and the Illinois heard with wonder and admiration the fluency and eloquence with which the French addressed them in their own Algonquin tongue.

The Indians besought the travelers to stay with them, but Marquette explained to them the purpose of the exploration under the French government of Canada, and the necessity of proceeding promptly on their way, saying to the Indians: "My companion, Joliet, is an envoy of France to discover new lands and people," and I am am-

bassador from God to enlighten them with the Gospel. He promised the Indians that he would thereafter visit them and teach the principles and mysteries of his religion. In his journal, Marquette describes the Illinois as remarkably handsome, well manneered and kindly.

Father Charlvaixe, who visited Illinois in 1721, thus speaks of the Illinois Indians at the Kaskaskia and Cahokia mission: "The Indians at these places live much at their ease. A. Fleming, who was a domestic of the Jesuits, had taught them how to sow wheat, which succeeds well. They have swine and black cattle. The Illinois manure their grounds after their fashion and are very laborious. They likewise bring up poultry which they sell to the French. Their women are very neat-handed and industrious. They spin the wool of the buffalo into threads as fine as can be made from that of the English sheep. Nay, sometimes it might be taken for silk. Of this they manufacture fabrics which are dyed black, yellow and red, after which they are made into robes which they sew together with the sinews of the roebuck. They expose these to the sun for the space of three days, and when dry beat them and without difficulty draw out white threads of great fineness."

This statement of the industry, skill and ingenuity of the Illinois in 1721 is happily applicable to their civilized successors of 1876.

Uncontaminated by the vices of civilized life, these natives of the wilderness were full of natural dignity. The undisputed lords of those primeval solitudes, knowing no superiors, brave, generous, and of noble presence, well sustaining their honored tribal designation of Illinah, or Illinois the manly people—the real man. The chief and some hundreds of his braves attended the explorers back to the river, where the parties took an affectionate leave of each other. After passing down the river, through many exciting perils and adventures which cannot be detailed here, the expedition reached the mouth of the Arkansas.

The main points of the exploration having been sufficiently ascertained and dangers increasing, the explorers resolved to return north and report their discoveries. Just two months from embarking from Mackinaw, and one month from entering the Wisconsin, they commenced their journey homeward, and passing up the Illinois river instead of the Wisconsin, they formed a further acquaintance with the Illinois tribes.

Ascending their river, the explorers were pleased with the Indians and their country. "No where," says Marquette, "did we see such grounds, woods, meadows, buffalo, deer, elk, turkeys, swan, geese, ducks, and even otters and beavers, as along the Illinois river."

Passing up the Chicago river and the lakes, the explorers arrived at Green Bay in September, having in about four months with rare dispatch and success discovered the Mississippi, the direction of its source and its probable outlet—the main objects of the expedition—in a tour of twenty-five hundred miles in open canoes.

Marquette, in the spring of 1675, after wintering with his two voyageurs on the present site of the city of Chicago, had his canoe borne over the portage from the Chicago river to the Des Plaines, and descending through the latter into the Illinois, was cordially received at



the chief town of the confederacy, the largest in the west, on the north side of the river, the modern site of Utica, in the county of La Salle, extending a mile or more through a vale of surpassing beauty, and filling it from the Illinois river to the bordering bluffs. This was the capital of the tribes forming the Illinois confederacy, having, at some times, five hundred or more lodges, with a population variously estimated at from five to eight thousand, and probably more at the general meeting of the tribes there.

When the Europeans first explored the country, the tribes of the Illinois confederacy probably aggregated from 12,000 to 15,000 population, and perhaps more. It is said that some hundreds of Illinois chiefs, of different ranks, and a vast multitude of their aged men, warriors, women and children crowded their capital town at the celebration of the Easter festival by Marquette, and that all were profoundly moved by his religious ceremonies and eloquence.

Then Marquette founded the first mission in the Illinois country, and christened it "The Mission of the Immaculate Conception," and the place Kaskaskia, probably after the tribe of Kaskaskians, who first entertained the explorers two years before, on their voyage of discovery down the Mississippi.

The name Kaskaskia, as is well known, was afterwards given to another locality farther south, the first permanent lodgment of civilization in the valley of the Mississippi, and the first capital, both of the territory and state of Illinois. There, at the first locality, he erected the christian cross, built an altar, performed mass, and celebrated the festival of Easter to the great admiration and wonder of the natives; but his failing health soon after caused him to leave this mission for his home in Mackinaw, and, taking leave of the Indians, he ascended the Illinois river with his voyageurs and reached Lake Michigan as soon as possible, and passing up the east side, he became so exhausted that he rested in the bottom of his canoe.

Coming to the mouth of a little stream he requested his attendants to land, and in doing so they bore him to a pleasant spot. Here he observed the rites of his church, preparatory to the close of life, and quietly expired, and was buried. His remains were afterwards removed by a party of Ottawa Indians, his former converts, in a procession of canoes up the lake to St. Ignace, at Mackinaw, and buried beneath the floor of the chapel of the mission.

Joliet, after the exploration of the Mississippi, resumed his lucrative business of the fur trade, in Canada, the next year, and died in the early part of the succeeding century. What had been auspiciously begun by the public benefactors, Joliet and Marquette, was pursued with exalted enthusiasm and energy by that extraordinary explorer, the gifted and lion-hearted chevalier, Robert De La Salle. The first discovery gave an impulse which was felt throughout Europe, and monarchs, on foreign thrones, claimed unbounded regions in the New World, and battled for distant dominions.

La Salle emigrated from France to Canada about 1670. He was from a wealthy family, early exhibited powerful talent and was educated among the Jesuits. After his arrival in Canada he made the acquaintance of the governor and the leading public men, civil and ecclesiastical. Like most of the explorers of that age, he was intent

upon the discovery of a westward passage to the commerce of Asia; this he imagined could be found through the outlet of the Mississippi, affording a short cut to China and other oriental regions. La Salle was also desirous to secure the North-American continent to the crown of France, and presented to Frontenac, the governor-general of Canada, the importance of connecting it with the Gulf of Mexico, by a chain of forts along the navigable lakes and rivers for that purpose.

The governor entered strongly into his views, and proposed to rebuild, with improved fortifications, Fort Frontenac, now the site of Kingston, Canada. In 1674, La Salle returned to France, and through the minister laid his plans before the monarch. These were highly approved, and La Salle was made a chevalier and invested with privileges and authority in Canada. On his return to America, he labored diligently in exploring the lakes and rivers of the north-west, and in forming an acquaintance with the different Indian tribes and their languages. He was cordially received by the Indians of the Illinois confederacy and visited their chief town, the site of Utica before mentioned. In 1680, he built Fort Crevecœur, near the foot of Peoria Lake. Owing to apprehensions of a hostile invasion by the Six Nations (the Iroquois confederacy of New York) into the country of Illinois, and wishing to protect the latter who were friendly to the French, La Salle ordered Henry de Fonte, his bravest and most faithful and efficient officer, to fortify the lofty bluff on the south bank of the river, between the present city of Ottawa and the mouth of the big Vermilion. Fonte commenced the work in 1680 promptly, as ordered by La Salle, but the sudden invasion of the Iroquois prevented the completion of the fortress. The invasion of these warlike Indians from abroad was terrific. They were fully prepared for bloodshed and conflagration, and fell stealthily upon the Illinois with the most barbarous ferocity, desolating the Illinois capital and burning and torturing its inhabitants.

The invaders soon returned east after being defeated in battle by the Illinois on the Iroquois river, in the county which bears the name of the defeated. Subsequently the Illinois rebuilt their desolated town, and Fonte completed his fortifications in 1682. It was a little Gibraltar in its way, and was originally called Rock Fort, the site now known as Starved Rock. Some authors, and Dr. Sparks the historian among them, seem to confound "Starved Rock" with "Buffalo Rock," both on the Illinois river, in the county of La Salle. In 1857, Dr. Sparks, at Cambridge, Mass., enquired of the writer respecting these places, and the true locality of La Salle's Fort St. Louis. These rocky bluffs tower up on either side of the river. "Starved Rock" is a lofty cliff, a mass of rock rising some 150 feet from the water, accessible only at one point and that difficult; three of the sides being precipitous and the diameter of surface 100 feet, and is situated on the southern bank of the Illinois river, about one mile above the ancient site of the great town of the Illinois, now Utica, on the opposite bank. "Buffalo Rock" is a promontory on the northern side of the river, six miles below Ottawa. It rises nearly sixty feet, almost perpendicular on three sides, and contains on its surface some hundreds of acres of timber and prairie, called Buffalo Rock, because the Indians rushed buffalo over it to capture them. La Salle named Starved Rock

fortress Fort St. Louis, in honor of his king. The same year 1682, La Salle and his companions reached the Mississippi, and on the 6th of April looked forth with joy and wonder upon the great Gulf of Mexico.

Conjectures as to the outlet of the Mississippi were now at an end, and the indomitable La Salle, trampling over obstacles insurmountable to most men, even the heroic, had made his fame and the great river inseparable. Four days after the discovery of the gulf he ascended the river to its banks and there, in the midst of his companions, reared a column, on which he fixed the following inscription :

*“Louis le Grande Roi de France, et de Navarre. Regne: Le Neuvieme April, 1682.”*

La Salle, in his journal, translated from the original in the French archives, by Dr. Sparks, says : On the 8th of April, 1682, we reascended the river, a little above its confluence with the sea, to find a dry place, beyond the reach of inundations. The elevation of the north pole was here about twenty-seven degrees. Here we prepared a column and a cross, and to the said column we affixed the arms of France, with this inscription : “Louis Le Grand, Roi,” &c., and then proclaimed, with great dignity and impressive voice, and ceremony, “In the name of the most high, mighty, invincible and victorious Prince Louis the Great, by the grace of God, King of France and Navarre, fourteenth of that name, I, this 9th day of April, 1682, in virtue of the commission of his majesty, which I hold in my hand, and which may be seen by all whom it may concern, have taken, and now do take, in the name of his majesty, and of his successors to the crown, possession of this country of Louisiana, the sea, harbors, ports, bays, adjacent straits, and all the nations, people, provinces, cities, towns, villages, mines, minerals, fisheries, streams and rivers comprised within the limits of the said Louisiana.”

This was followed by the discharge of fire arms and the shouts of *Vive le Roi, vive le Roi*, and thus the great valley of the Mississippi and its tributaries, with twenty thousand miles of navigable waters, were added to the dominion of France. Without following La Salle further in his high career, which entitles him to lasting renown, space only permits the mention of his death, by assassination on a branch of the Brazos river in Texas. From the time of La Salle's proclamation near the mouth of the Mississippi, and perhaps from his founding the rocky citadel of Fort St. Louis, the French may be said to have claimed the country of the Mississippi. The Spanish explorers had preceded the French in the southern country, and had made permanent possession at St. Augustine and Pensacola, but had extended Spanish authority little if any beyond these limits. The Illinois country was claimed successively by the Spanish, French, British, and Americans, though the Spanish never established local government in Illinois as did the other powers.

French settlements continued to be made. Father Gravier founded Kaskaskia about 1690, and D. Iberville founded a colony at Mobile, and Cadellac at Detroit about ten years after, and New Orleans was founded in 1718. In the war then existing between France and Spain their respective colonies in America were involved in hostilities. The French under Bienville made a descent on Pensacola and took it, afterwards blew up the fort, burned the town, and returned to Mobile.

The Spaniards planned an expedition and fitted it out at Santa Fe for the destruction of the French settlements in Illinois. Detachments of Spanish cavalry were to cross the great American desert for this purpose, and the places destroyed were to be recolonized with a Spanish population from Mexico. These schemes were defeated by the French, who in anticipation of further hostilities built Fort Chartres in 1720, on the Mississippi, twenty-two miles northwest of Kaskaskia, the strongest fortress on the Mississippi, and destined to occupy a conspicuous place in the subsequent history of Illinois.

Boisbriant, under the auspices of the Western company, then acting under the authority of France, superintended the erection of this formidable fort. In 1721, Louisiana was divided into seven districts, or cantons, viz: New Orleans, Biloxi, Mobile, Alabama, Natchez, Natchitochis and Illinois, which was appropriately called the granary of Louisiana, and Boisbriant was made the local governor of Illinois, with headquarters at Fort Chartres. From this period the famous fortress continued the seat of government, through French and British rule, and after Clark's conquest. In 1732, the Illinois colonists were greatly distressed by the death of their second local governor, the young and dauntless D. Artagnette, and his brave companions, Vincennes and Senat, in the war with the Chickasaw Indians. Up to 1711, the French settlements in the valley of the Mississippi had been separately under the government of Canada, but in that year they were united under the one province of Louisiana, Dinou'd Artagnette becoming governor-general, with the capital at Mobile.

From the first French explorations in the country of the Mississippi to early in 1763, when, by the treaty of Paris, France made a general surrender of her possessions east of the Mississippi, except New Orleans, to Great Britain, the Illinois country was a French colony, and it is a remarkable historical fact that the people, under the moral teachings and guidance of their religious leaders, were so imbued with the christian virtues, and awed to social duties, that their communities existed harmoniously nearly a century, without a court of law to settle their difficulties among themselves, and without wars with their Indian neighbors, and even without a local government till 1721. The Indians of the Illinois confederacy were uniformly friendly to the French. In King William's war with France, from 1689 to 1697, Queen Anne's war from 1701 to 1713, King George's war from 1744 to 1748, and the French and Indian war from 1754 to 1763, the Illinois warmly expoused the cause of France. They loved the French character, its vivacity, gayety, grace, and pleasant adaptation, and regarded the French as a superior people, and cordially mingled and married with them. Never were happier communities than those of the French in the early times of Illinois. Long after the treaty of Paris, the French flag still continued to wave over Fort Chartres, the headquarters of the commandant of Illinois, then St. Anjo, a French gentleman of superior refinement and influence, and greatly beloved by the French people of Illinois.

After over ten years the first British Governor, Captain Sterling, of the 42d Royal Highlanders, arrived in Illinois, and was courteously received at Fort Chartres by St. Anjo, the retiring French governor, and the French flag which had so long waved over the fort, after the general surrender of the country, was succeeded by the ensign of Great

Britain in October, 1765. In 1766, by an act of the British parliament, known as the Quebec bill, the Illinois country was annexed to Canada for governmental purposes, and so continued until the conquest of Col. George Rogers Clark, in 1778, by which it became the county of Illinois, in the state of Virginia.

The great conspiracy of Pontiac, the most powerful of all the Indian chieftains, who, after the treaty of Paris, undertook to unite the Indian tribes of the west and the south against the progress of British power, must be passed over in this limited introduction. Pontiac's war caused a terrific agitation throughout the northwest. The effort against the march of civilization failed, as all such must. The great Ottawa chief finally promised peace to the British at the treaty of Oswego, New York, in 1766, and then returned to the west, and made his home in the solitude of the forest, hunting the wild game for the subsistence of his family. Early in the year 1769, clad in the splendid uniform of a general, presented him by Montcalm, carefully preserved, he visited his old friend St. Anjo, then in command of the Spanish garrison at St. Louis. Against the counsel of his friends he attended a meeting of the Indians on the opposite side of the river at Cahokia, and while there he was assassinated by an Illinois Indian of the Kaskaskia tribe, who is supposed to have been bribed with whisky by an English trader to execute the murderous deed. Thus perished the greatest warrior of his race, often called the Napoleon of the American Indians, dying the year in which Napoleon the great was born. St. Anjo procured the body of the fallen hero and buried it with the honors of war near the fort under his command at St. Louis, that great city being now the renowned chieftain's only monument. His assassination aroused the Indian tribes of the northwest,—the Ottawas, the Sacs, Foxes, Pottowatomies, and other tribes that had been under his supreme control, and they rushed with savage vengeance upon the Illinois, who were nearly exterminated by the avengers of Pontiac's murder. Amid this bloody drama many of the Illinois took refuge in the impregnable fortress, Fort St. Louis, which was immediately besieged by their enemies. Here, upon this rocky eminence, the occupants were soon reduced to starvation. Their efforts to obtain water from the river were defeated by the besiegers, who, floating in canoes under the cliff, prevented the besieged from drawing up water to slake their thirst. Destitute alike of food and drink, and entirely famished, many laid themselves down on the rock to die with stoical fortitude and resignation. It is said that a few glided noiselessly by night through the gate of the fort, and seizing canoes which in the day they had seen lying in the river below, made good their escape to St. Louis. Years after, it is said, the rocky summit was still covered with the bleaching bones of the starved; hence the name "Starved Rock."

The old Kaskaskia tribe of the Illinois, formerly numerous, resided between the town of Kaskaskia and Fort Chartres, and in 1800 numbered only about one hundred and fifty warriors, indicating a population of seven or eight hundred. Old Du Quoin, their head chief, was a man of good natural ability and always a friend to the white settlers. From 1770 the Illinois tribes as a confederacy seem almost to have disappeared from history. At the breaking out of the revolution they were under the protection and control of the British gov-

ernment, to which they yielded a reluctant submission after the general surrender by France. It must be remembered that anciently both sides of the Mississippi were called Illinois, and after the secret transfer of the territory west of the Mississippi, including the island and town of New Orleans east, from France to Spain in 1762, that was called the "Spanish country." The American geography, written by the Rev. Doctor Jedediah Morse, father of the telegraph inventor, and published in 1789, contained excellent maps of this country one hundred years ago. On these maps all the territory west of the Mississippi and south of the Missouri rivers is marked "Spanish Dominions," and East and West Florida "Spanish Provinces." Early after the declaration of American Independence Lord Dunmore, the last of the British Governors of Virginia, fled the country, and the people of that state made Patrick Henry their chief magistrate. In 1778, Col. George Rogers Clark, a native of Virginia, who had proved himself a brave and efficient military leader in conflicts with the Indians in Kentucky, Ohio, and elsewhere, proposed to Gov. Henry the raising of an expedition to capture Kaskaskia, Fort Chartres, Vincennes, and other British posts in the Illinois country. The Governor favored the enterprise, and with the advice of his friends and confidential counsellors, Thomas Jefferson, George Mason, and George Wythie, aided and directed the expedition, which, through the transcendent skill and heroism of Col. Clark, was crowned with complete success. The Virginia Legislature voted their thanks to Col. Clark, his officers and men, for their brilliant achievements and made the Illinois country a county of Virginia, making Col. John Todd, Jr., its Lieutenant Colonel and civil commandant. The act of the House of Burgesses of the Commonwealth of Virginia, October, 1778, established the county of Illinois in the following words: "All the citizens of the Commonwealth of Virginia who are already settled, or shall hereafter settle, on the western side of the Ohio shall be included in a distinct county, which shall be called Illinois county." This act bears the seal of the commonwealth. This proclamation to the inhabitants is dated at Kaskaskia, June 15, 1779. Thus Patrick Henry became the first American Governor of Illinois.

After the close of the revolutionary war, Virginia in 1784 ceded to the United States all of her claims to the country northwest of the Ohio river, her claim to the Illinois country being through a grant from James I., of Great Britain.

New York, Connecticut, Massachusetts, and other states having supposed claims to western lands also ceded them, and Congress in 1778, by an ordinance of that year, organized the territory so ceded into the Northwestern Territory, and made General Arthur St. Clair its governor, capital at Marietta, afterwards at Chillicothe, and in 1795 at Cincinnati. From 1784, when Virginia ceded the Illinois country—the Northwestern Territory—to the United States, to 1790, when Governor St. Clair organized the first county in Illinois (St. Clair county), there was no executive legislature and judicial authority in the country. It is said that good feeling, harmony, and fidelity to engagements prevailed, and that for these six years the people were a law unto themselves.

Previous to the division of the Northwest Territory, and the organization of Indiana Territory in 1800, there had been but one term of

court having criminal jurisdiction in the three western counties of the Northwest Territory, Knox county, Indiana, St. Clair and Randolph counties, Illinois.

In 1800, the Northwest Territory was divided, and the western part formed into the territory of Indiana. This embraced what is now Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin, and Michigan.

General William Henry Harrison was made governor of Indiana, with the capital at Vincennes. In 1809, Indiana Territory was divided, and the western part thereof, including the area of the present states of Illinois and Wisconsin, was formed into the territory of Illinois, with Ninian Edwards, governor, and Nathaniel Pope, secretary of the territory, and acting governor pro tem., Kaskaskia being the seat of government.

The population of the territory at the time was estimated at 9,000. The census of 1810 states it at 12,282. More than nine-tenths of the territory was still a wilderness, over which the Indians and wild beasts roamed at pleasure. Preceding the war of 1812 there were many Indian troubles in the Illinois Territory, as in other parts of the northwest, and Governor Edwards was very active and efficient in protecting the territory from Indian encroachments. Tecumseh, the great Shawnee chief, like Pontiac, whom he much resembled in spirit and ability, united many of the western and southern tribes against the Americans. He was stimulated to this by the British in Canada, who gave him a general commission in the war, and made him many presents. His influence over the Indians in the west constantly aroused them to savage warfare. Most of these were in alliance with the British through the war of 1812, in which Tecumseh was slain.

On the 15th of August, 1812, occurred a most horrible Indian massacre at Chicago, which space will not permit to be detailed here. Indian hostilities ceasing on the close of the war, immigration into Illinois greatly increased. Congress, in 1813, granted the right of preemption to settlers on the public lands. This was a most important provision, and one which wonderfully stimulated emigration and settlements. In 1818, the territorial legislature at Kaskaskia, in January of that year, petitioned Congress for the admission of Illinois as a state in the Union, with a population of 40,000. Nathaniel Pope, then territorial delegate, presented the petition promptly. The petition was referred to the proper committee who instructed the delegate to report a bill in pursuance of the petition. (The Hon. Nathaniel Pope was appointed United States judge for the district of Illinois, in 1818, an office which he filled with great ability to the close of his life, in 1850.) The bill was reported with certain amendments proposed by Judge Pope. The principal of those amendments were: first, to extend the northern boundary of the new state to the parallel of 42° 30' north latitude—this would give a good harbor on Lake Michigan—and secondly, to apply the *three per cent. fund*, arising from the sales of the public lands, to the encouragement of learning, instead of the making of roads, as had been the case on the admission of Ohio and Indiana. The rich results of liberal educational provisions in this act of Congress, may be seen in the flourishing free schools of Illinois, and her seminaries, colleges, and universities. Besides the three per cent. on the sales of the public lands, and the 16th section

in every township, Congress, in a general grant to the states, gave Illinois 480,000 acres of land, with which the Illinois industrial university has been established. All these important changes were proposed and carried through both houses of Congress, by Judge Pope's influence, and he deserves the lasting gratitude of the state for wise efforts in measures which have so richly contributed to its prosperity. This bill became a law, as amended in April 1818, and in pursuance of this enabling act, a convention was called to draft a state constitution at Kaskaskia, in the following July. In August thereafter the constitution was completed and signed by the delegates of the fifteen counties then organized—here given in the order of time of their formation—, viz.: St. Clair, Randolph, Madison, Gallatin, Johnson, Edwards, White, Monroe, Pope, Jackson, Crawford, Bond, Union, Washington, and Franklin. Jesse B. Thomas was the president of the convention, and William C. Greenup, secretary.

The first election under the constitution was held on the third Thursday in September of that year, and the following officers were elected: Shadrach Bond, governor; Pierre Menard, lieutenant-governor; John McLean, representative in congress. On October 5th the legislature met and elected the following officers: Ninian Edwards, who had been governor of Illinois during the whole territorial term of nine years, and Jesse B. Thomas, who had been president of the constitutional convention, were chosen United States senators; Joseph Philips, chief justice; and Thomas C. Brown, John Reynolds, and William P. Foster, associate justices of the supreme court; Elijah C. Berry, auditor of public accounts; John Thomas, state treasurer, Daniel P. Cook, attorney-general; and Messrs. Blackwell and Berry, state printers; Elias Kent Kane, was appointed secretary of state. With these its first officers, the state of Illinois went into operation, after its admission into the Union, December 3d, 1818. After the election of these officers, the legislature adjourned to the first Monday of January, 1819, omitting all other business, as the state had not then been admitted into the Union.

Pursuant to adjournment, the legislature assembled at Kaskaskia the first Monday of January, and Governor Bond delivered his first message. Among other things, even at that early day, the Governor recommended that steps be taken for the construction of the Illinois and Michigan canal, for aid in which a subsequent legislature memorialized congress for a grant of land. Through the efforts of Daniel P. Cook, the able and distinguished representative in congress from this state, the land grant was obtained at the session of 1826 and 1827, giving Illinois alternate sections of land five miles in width each side of the proposed canal through the whole length thereof, amounting between 200,000 and 300,000 acres. The county embracing Chicago appropriately bears the honored name of Cook, in memory of a devoted and talented public servant.

The seat of government for Illinois was continued at Kaskaskia till 1820. Previous to that time congress, at the request of the Illinois legislature, had donated land for a new seat of government on condition that it should be used as such for twenty years.

A tract was selected in the county of Fayette, and named Vandalia. There a plain state house was erected, and the legislature held the



session of 1820 and 1821 there. Many matters important in a full history of the state must be omitted here for want of space, such as the Black Hawk war of 1832; the Illinois banks established in 1816, 1819, 1820, 1821, and 1835; also the struggle on the question of slavery at the election of 1822, in which the friends of freedom were successful in the election of Edward Coles for governor.

Fifty years ago General La Fayette arrived in the United States as the "nation's guest," to be present at the half-century celebrations of the opening of the revolutionary war preceding the Declaration of Independence, and progress and prosperity of American liberty. Upon the arrival of the renowned personage in the city of New York the general assembly of Illinois invited him to visit our ancient town of Kaskaskia, the state capital, armory, and other things. In his reply to the invitation, La Fayette said: "It has ever been my eager desire, and it is now my earnest intention, to visit the western states, and particularly the state of Illinois. The feelings which your distant welcome could not fail to excite have increased that patriotic eagerness to admire on that blessed spot the rapid and happy results of republican institutions, public and domestic virtues. I shall, after the celebration of the 22d of February anniversary day, leave this place for a journey to the southern, and from New Orleans to the western states, so as to return to Boston, to be present June 17, when the corner stone of the Bunker Hill monument is to be laid, a ceremony sacred to the whole union, and in which I have been engaged to act a peculiar and honorable part." Remaining in the city of New York till after the memorable celebration of the birth day anniversary of Washington, his illustrious chief, La Fayette proceeded on his visit to the south and west, the cities of which gave him a splendid reception.

Ascending the Mississippi from New Orleans to St. Louis, he at length reached Kaskaskia, and was there received in the presence of a multitude of people by Governor Coles, in an eloquent speech of welcome, to which La Fayette feelingly and appropriately responded. A sumptuous dinner was prepared by the patriotic ladies of Kaskaskia, and the dining-hall was ornamented in the most elegant manner.

After dinner, toasts were drank, the honored hero led off with the following: "Kaskaskia and Illinois—May their joint prosperity more and more evince the blessings of congenial industry and freedom."

Under the ordinance of 1787, slavery and involuntary servitude were prohibited in the northwestern territories, but some thought a state might annul this prohibition. Slaves were held by the French in Illinois under an edict of Louis XIII., re-enacted by Louis XV., 1724, regulating police affairs in the province of Louisiana and elsewhere. From 1800 to 1820, most of the emigration was from the slave states. In many cases the emigrants brought their slaves with them, and had them *indentured as servants*, in accordance with statutes for avoiding the prohibition of slavery. Laws providing for the discipline of such servants, and for the regulation of colored people, were enacted and known as the "Black Laws," all of which have now been swept from the statutes of Illinois as unworthy of the state and age. At a special session of the Legislature, 1835, the Governor of Illinois was authorized to negotiate a loan of half a million of dollars with which to make commencement on the Illinois and Michigan Canal.

The loan was negotiated and the canal commissioners appointed, and the work begun in June, 1836. Immigration for a few years past had been greatly increased, and speculation was the order of the day. All saw that Illinois, with her great extent of territory and superior advantages of soil and climate, must become a great state. Canals, railroads, improvements of harbors and rivers, the location of towns and business centers, were general topics for discussion.

When the Legislature met at Vandalia, in the session of 1836 and '37, an internal improvement convention assembled the same time at the seat of government. Amidst the excitement the members of the Legislature felt themselves instructed by the voice of the people to vote for a system of extensive internal improvements—such a system was passed by the Legislature in the course of the session—providing for railroads from Galena to the mouth of the Ohio; from Alton to Shawneetown; from Alton to Mount Carmel; from Alton to the eastern boundary of the state, in the direction of Terre Haute. Alton was to be a great railway center, the terminus of three of these roads. Certain interested capitalists and politicians in and around Alton labored zealously to impress upon the citizens of the state the vital importance of making Alton the rival of St. Louis, a scheme impracticable. This they called "State Policy." There was also railroads provided from Quincy, on the Mississippi, through Springfield to the Wabash; from Bloomington to Pekin, and from Peoria to Warsaw and others, including in the whole about thirteen hundred miles of railway.

The legislature also provided for improving the navigation of the Kaskaskia, Illinois, Great and Little Wabash, and Rock river and others. Moreover, \$200,000 were to be distributed among those counties in which there were to be no roads or improvements. The legislature voted \$8,000,000 for this system, to be raised by a loan. A further loan of \$4,000,000 was authorized for the purpose of constructing the canal from Chicago to Peru. At this same session Springfield was made the future seat of government, and measures taken for the erection of a state house there.

A board of fund commissioners, to negotiate the loan for railroads and other purposes, was appointed. In the spring of 1837 the banks of Illinois, and throughout the United States, suspended specie payments. The fund commissioners, by using from the *principal* sums borrowed, were able to pay interest on the State debt up to the first meeting of the Legislature at the Springfield session of 1840 and 1841. Owing to these premature and extraordinary improvements, as projected, the State subsequently sank under a crushing debt of over \$14,000,000, on which she was unable to pay even the interest. Her ordinary expenses for government exceeded her annual revenues; her bonds fell to fourteen cents on the dollar; her credit was gone, and the State debt became a terror at home and a reproach abroad. The public works starting under the delirium of fictitious values, and the rage for speculation, and sudden wealth and splendor, ceased for want of funds, and in 1840 our population of 476,183 owed a debt of \$14,237,348. The banks of the State, in which she was a heavy stockholder and loser, had failed. The people were left destitute of a home currency or means of foreign exchange. The creditors of Illinois—bondholders—among the wealthiest capitalists of London, Amsterdam

and New York, manifested a generous forbearance toward the State in her extreme embarrassment, and offered to complete the Illinois and Michigan canal, on which \$5,000,000 had been expended, and to receive its revenues and lands in payment of their demands till satisfied; *provided*, the people, by legislative action, would give reliable assurance of their determination to raise a portion of the annual interest by taxation, to be paid in gold. Various were the views of the best citizens as to the course to be pursued. Many were for delay and compromise, declaring that the bond-holders ought to reduce *their* demands, as they had purchased the State bonds at a discount; others were for declaring the State hopelessly insolvent, and repudiating her indebtedness. But the time at length came for a decisive course, and the General Assembly of 1844 and 1845 was destined to occupy the turning point in our financial history. Governor Ford, with great ability and true devotion to the best interests of the State, urged the acceptance of the bond-holders' proposition for a permanent arrangement of the State debt. Upon the meeting of the General Assembly, prominent citizens from every part of the State gathered at the capital, solicitous that the integrity and honor of the State should be maintained, and it was soon seen that the acceptance of the bond-holders' offer was the prevailing sentiment; delay and repudiation were evidently doomed.

In the course of the session, the Hon. John Davis, ex-Governor of Massachusetts, and David Leavitt, Esq., president of the American Exchange Bank, of New York, the former as agent of the firm, and the latter of the home creditors, arrived at Springfield, and were cordially received by the governor, members of the legislature, and prominent citizens attending at the capital. Satisfactory provision for the payment of the state debt was made by legal enactment, approved March 1, 1845. And from this point, the just arrangement of her indebtedness, the state arose hopefully from her temporary depression. Her credit was restored, public confidence inspired, and vigorous health and action succeeded suspended animation. Wealth and population from abroad flowed into the state copiously as when she was free from debt, and industry and enterprise entered upon the development of her exhaustless resources. The canal opened for use in 1848 yielded cheering revenues. The canal lands were sold, and the state debt disappeared almost unnoticed. The canal and its appurtenances were then restored to the state. The growth and progress of Illinois have been unsurpassed. Her population has more than doubled, has trebled, in single decades. And she now stands conspicuous in the first rank of states in all those improvements, institutions, and influences which characterize a prosperous and powerful commonwealth. Looking back to the early struggles of the state, when her whole people scarcely exceeded the population of her present great commercial metropolis, and when Chicago, in 1834, was a small village exhibiting a poll list of but one hundred and eleven votes, and a tax of only \$48 90 for that year, when the village trustees resolved to borrow \$60 00 for the opening and improving of its streets, we need not wonder that the state was paralyzed by what would now appear a light indebtedness. That imperial city, now risen gloriously from the ashes of the most wide-wasting and appalling of conflagrations, having made her superb rebuilding more wonderful even than her sudden and awful destruction,

can better bear a debt of hundreds of millions than the state could ten, thirty years ago. Beholding the monuments of excellence and advancement everywhere throughout the state, and reflecting on their origin, we recall with pride and admiration the integrity and honor which distinguished that memorable era in her annals, the year 1845, the turning point in her career of greatness. It is indeed a proud period in the history of our young state when her people, with great unanimity, taxed themselves to meet their honorable obligations.

Speaking of this, our supreme court in the case of the *People vs. the Auditor*, 30 Ill., 439, truly said: "Never perhaps in the history of any state has a grander spectacle been presented than in the action of our people, when, in the darkest period of our infant history, public and private embarrassment being almost universal, in the voluntary uprising to subject themselves to a heavy tax, and shackle themselves for an indefinite period."

Thus far we have sketched the early exploration, settlement, and improvement of Illinois, showing in how brief a period, and from what small beginnings she has become an empire state. From 1845 to the present her history is one of unrivaled prosperity, and worthy of more extended notice than can be afforded here. Her immense immigration from every part of the union and from Europe; her superior educational, charitable, and religious institutions; her thousands of miles of railway in the last quarter of a century; the patriotism and devotion of her gifted governor and people in sustaining the union cause, for which over 250,000 of her gallant sons went forth to battle in the recent war; and, finally, the rare unanimity with which her admirable constitution was framed and ratified in 1870, are all grand historical way-marks in the cheering advancement of the state. Through four successive terms the nation has honored Illinois by the election of her eminent sons, Abraham Lincoln and Ulysses S. Grant, to the presidency.

Since her existence as a territory and state, Illinois has done well her part in the production of intellectual superiority and the promotion of the great works of national progress which have signalized the first century of our country's self-government, as the glory of history and the wonder of human achievements. The Hon. Sidney Breese, United States senator from Illinois, chairman of the committee on public lands in 1846, had the honor of making the first report in congress in favor of constructing the Pacific railway. Asa Whitney, Esq., of New York, had memorialized congress on the subject, and the matter was referred to Judge Breese's committee. The report, as might have been expected from its author, was a very able and thorough discussion of the importance and practicability of the great undertaking, and, enlightening public sentiment, gave an impulse to the enterprise, which continued to its successful completion. The original plan was to reach the ocean through Oregon, as California had not been acquired by the United States at the time of this first report.

During the first century of our national being more has been done for the useful arts, the illumination of science, and the amelioration of mankind than in former ages. Perhaps we realize this the more when we consider the condition of our country in 1776. Then thirteen feeble colonies on the borders of the Atlantic, with a population of

3,000,000, and now thirty-eight powerful states, occupying a vast continental region from Plymouth Rock to the Golden Gate, and from the Northern Lakes to the Southern Gulf, with a population between 40,000,000 and 50,000,000.

One hundred years ago, most of the area now occupied by Illinois, was a wilderness; her forests the home of the Indian and beasts of prey; and her prairies the grazing grounds of the deer, the elk, and the buffalo.

Half a century ago, a little over, Illinois was admitted into the sisterhood of states. The sails of commerce had not then whitened the upper lakes, nor had a single steamer plowed their waters. Trade from abroad was carried on by means of a few inferior boats on the Ohio and Mississippi rivers; and Chicago, Quincy, Springfield, Peoria, Galena, Rockford, Aurora, Freeport, and other rising cities of the present were not surveyed till many years after. Chicago, now the emporium of the Northwest, did not have a post-office and mail conveyance till 1833, fifteen years after Illinois became a state, and then her eastern mail, now enormous through the daily arrival of railways, was brought on horse-back from Niles, Michigan, and only once a week. Breadstuffs and other provisions were procured from abroad for years to supply Chicago, now the greatest meat-market, grainery, lumber depot, and railway center on the globe.

The first shipment of grain from Chicago eastward was of wheat—less than one hundred bushels, in 1838. And now that city excels all other cities in the world in the exportation of provisions.

How the small beginning contrasts with some of the latter years, when the city has exported between sixty and seventy million bushels of grain, and her trade in cattle, hogs and lumber, over half a million head of cattle, a million and a half of hogs, and over one hundred million feet of lumber. Unrivalled in her commercial position as a business center, and surrounded by natural advantages ample for almost any colossal enterprise, Chicago seems destined to an unlimited growth.

De Witt Clinton, after the completion of the Erie canal, New York, while considering the influence the great work would have on the settlement and development of the west, map in hand, pointed to the present region of Chicago, and said: "Some time a great city will rise there."

The first street and lots ever laid out in Chicago were surveyed by James Thompson in 1828, the year of the prophetic statesman's decease.

Illinois, in this centennial year of the nation, has reached a proud standing for a state so young. Her internal revenue, just paid into the United States treasury, exhibits the largest amount from any state, exceeding that of New York, the next highest, by over ten millions of dollars.

The internal revenues from Illinois, in report of 1875, was \$17,626,688; of New York, \$15,200,000.

Illinois became a territory with two counties, entered the union as a state with fifteen, and now has one hundred and two. Her population in 1809, when organized as a territory, was 9,000, and in 1810 was 12,282. She entered the union in 1818 with a population of 40,000. In 1820 her population had increased to 55,162; in 1830, 157,445; in

1840, 476,483; in 1850, 851,470; 1860, 1,711,951; and 1870, 2,539,891. And with the progress of the state for the five years since the last census her population is greater than that of all the united colonies one hundred years ago at the Declaration of American Independence.

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GOVERNORS OF ILLINOIS.

TERRITORY.

Ninian Edwards, 1809 to 1818.  
 Nathaniel Pope acting temporarily about two months.

STATE.

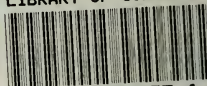
Shadrach Bond, 1818 to 1822.  
 Edward Cole, 1822 to 1826.  
 Ninian Edwards, 1826 to 1830.  
 John Reynolds, 1830 to 1834.  
 Joseph Duncan, 1834 to 1838.  
 Thomas Carlin, 1838 to 1842.  
 Thomas Ford, 1842 to 1846.  
 Augustus C. French, 1846 to 1848.  
 Augustus C. French, 1848 to 1852.

NEW CONSTITUTION.

Joel A. Matteson, 1852 to 1856.  
 William H. Bissell, 1856 to 1860. Died March 18, 1866.  
 John Wood, Lieutenant Governor, ten months.  
 Richard Yates, 1860 to 1864.  
 Richard J. Oglesby, 1864 to 1868.  
 John M. Palmer, 1868 to 1872.  
 Richard J. Oglesby, 1872 to 1876. Resigned January, 1873.  
 John L. Beveridge, Lieutenant Governor, for the term.



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